

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

KEMPER HOLDINGS LLC,

Plaintiff,

v.

AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL
GROUP,

Defendants.

CASE NO. C20-1793 MJP

ORDER DENYING STIPULATED
MOTION TO FILE CORPORATE
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER SEAL

This matter comes before the Court upon the Parties' stipulated motion to allow Plaintiff, Kemper Holdings, LLC, to file its Rule 7.1 Corporate Disclosure Statement under seal. (Dkt. No. 20.) Having reviewed the Motion and the related record, the Court DENIES the Motion.

There is a strong presumption of public access to the court's files." LCR 5(g). "Unless a particular court record is one 'traditionally kept secret,' a 'strong presumption in favor of access' is the starting point." Kamakana v. City & Cty. of Honolulu, 447 F.3d 1172, 1178 (9th Cir. 2006). In order to overcome this presumption, the party seeking to seal must make a

1 “particularized showing,” under the “good cause” standard of Rule 26(c) “to warrant preserving
2 the secrecy of sealed discovery material attached to non-dispositive motions.” Id. at 1180
3 (internal citations omitted).

4 Here, Plaintiff contends that the good cause standard is met because “[m]embers of
5 Kemper not already made public have a legitimate concern that they will be subjected to
6 unnecessary attention and annoyance if their identities are revealed publicly.” (Dkt. No. 20 at 3.)
7 But Plaintiff has failed to identify any specific concern distinguishable from that of any other
8 member of a limited liability company litigating in federal court. Further, Plaintiff’s proposal
9 does not address the public’s right to evaluate whether conflicts exist. Plaintiff has therefore
10 failed to meet the “good cause” standard necessary to overcome the strong presumption in favor
11 of public access. The motion is DENIED; Plaintiff’s Corporate Disclosure Statement shall be
12 unsealed.

13
14 The clerk is ordered to provide copies of this order to all counsel.

15 Dated December 23, 2020.

16
17 

18 Marsha J. Pechman
19 United States Senior District Judge
20
21
22
23
24